

Each of the foreign patent documents submitted herewith was cited in the International Search Report of a corresponding international application, and/or in the specification of the present application. An English language version of the Search Report is submitted herewith, which serves as a statement of relevance for the non-English references not cited in the specification.

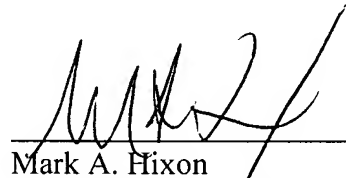
The U.S. patent documents cited herein were cited in the U.S. application from which the present application claims priority.

As this IDS is being submitted prior to the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, it is submitted that no prior art consideration fee is required.

A copy of the documents are listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A enclosed herewith.

It is requested that it be fully considered and made of record in this case.

Respectfully submitted,



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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	1
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of 2

Application Number	10/756.088
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January 13, 2004

First Named Inventor	Torr. et al.
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Art Unit

Examiner Name	
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Attorney Docket Number	1-16438
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U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ ~Number ⁴ ~Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY			
		FR 2731696 A	09-20-1996	Combes		
		EP 0555552 A1	08-18-1993	Taniguicki		
		FR 2775476 A1	09-03-1999	Bordeaux		
		FR 2595091 A1	09-04-1987	Demeester		
		EP 0887321 A2	12-30-1995	Koch, et al.		
		EP 0887321 A3	12-30-1998	Koch, et al.		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

2

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2

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Filing Date	January 13, 2004
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		GB 1512163	05-24-1978	Boardman, et al		
		GB 2000117 B	01-04-1979	Greenhalgh		
		WO 96/28394	09-19-1996	Combes, et al		
		WO 99/44952	09-10-1999	Bordeaux, et al		

Date
Considered

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